In the Claims:

Claims 1-3 (Cancelled).

4. (Withdrawn) The multidirectional input device of claim 2 further comprising:

a conductive plate made of anisotropic conductor disposed between said ring-shaped resistance element layer and both of the first conductive layer and the second conductive layer,

wherein when the anisotropic conductor is pressed thicknesswise, a pressed position of the anisotropic conductor conducts thicknesswise.

5. (Withdrawn) The multidirectional input device of claim 2 further comprising:

a push switching section formed of a switch contact and a push switch,

wherein the switch contact is formed of a fixed contact and a resilient domed moving contact, and the fixed contact is formed of a central contact and an outer contact which is formed around the central contact, and the moving contact insulated is disposed on a center of said resistance element layer of the flexible insulating substrate, and a lower circumference section of the moving contact is disposed on the outer contact,

wherein the push switch is held by a through-hole punched at a center of the knob, and can move up and down independently of the knob, so that an upward moving of the push switch is restricted, and a center of a lower surface of the push switch comes in contact with an upper section of the moving contact,

wherein the first conductive layer and the second conductive layer shape in arcs having given widths.

6. (Withdrawn) The multidirectional input device of claim 5,

wherein a section to be pressed of an upper surface of the knob is formed inside a ring-shaped protruded section beneath the knob,

wherein the push switch is held concentrically in the through-hole of a center of the knob,

wherein when the section to be pressed of an upper surface of the knob is pushed and the knob is tilted to a desirable direction, the knob pushes the flexible insulating substrate and the

direction of the tilted knob is recognized, then the push switch pushes the domed moving contact.

7. (Cancelled).

8. (Withdrawn) The multidirectional input device of claim 7,

wherein the plane substrate is formed of the conductive metal substrate incorporating an output terminal, and the output terminal is routed to outside, and the plane substrate is fixed to a casing,

wherein a conductive resilient leg fixed to the casing comes resiliently in contact with a terminal of said resistance element layer,

wherein when said resistance element layer partially comes in contact with the plane substrate by operating said operating section, a voltage is applied alternately to input terminals of the casing corresponding to the resilient legs, so that the voltage is applied to said resistance element layer, and a signal is thus obtained from the output terminal.

9. (Withdrawn) The multidirectional input device of claim 7,

wherein, the insulating substrate has input terminals of a plurality of electrodes, and the input terminals are routed to outside, and the insulating substrate is fixed to the casing,

wherein the plane substrate is formed of a resilient metal substrate incorporating an output terminal,

wherein when said resistance element layer comes in contact with the plane substrate partially by operating said operating section, a voltage is applied alternately to input terminals of the casing, so that the voltage is applied to said resistance element layer, and a signal is thus obtained from the output terminal.

10. (Withdrawn) The multidirectional input device of claim 8 further comprising a switch,

wherein the insulating substrate has an aperture corresponding to a center of said resistance element layer,

wherein said switch corresponding to the aperture is disposed at a place on the plane

substrate,

wherein said operating section operates said switch through the aperture.

11. (Withdrawn) The multidirectional input device of claim 9 further comprising a switch at a center of said resistance element layer of the insulating substrate.

Claims 12-16 (Cancelled).

17. (Withdrawn) The electronic apparatus of claim 13,

wherein said multidirectional input device further comprises a push switching section formed of a switch contact and a push switch,

wherein the switch contact is formed of a fixed contact and a resilient domed moving contact, and the fixed contact is formed of a central contact and an outer contact which is formed around the central contact, and the moving contact insulated is disposed on a center of said resistance element layer of the flexible insulating substrate, and a lower circumference section of the moving contact is disposed on the outer contact,

wherein the push switch is held by the through-hole punched at a center of the knob, and can move up and down independently of the knob, so that an upward moving of the push switch is restricted, and a center of a lower surface of the push switch comes in contact with an upper section of the moving contact,

wherein the first conductive layer and the second conductive layer shape in arcs having given widths,

wherein the plane substrate is a plane printed circuit substrate of said electronic apparatus, and formed of the first conductive layer, the second conductive layer and the fixed contact of the switch contact,

wherein the flexible insulating substrate placed above the printed circuit substrate further comprises the moving contact of the switch contact,

wherein the knob is exposed from the through-hole of said top casing,

wherein the push switch is held in the through-hole of a center of the knob.

18. (Cancelled).

19. (Withdrawn) The electronic apparatus of claim 18,

wherein when said resistance element layer partially comes in contact with said conductive section by operating said operating section, a moving speed of one of a cursor and an icon along a direction corresponding to the contacted point is controlled such that the moving speed can change responsive to a result detected within a given time.

20. (Withdrawn) The electronic apparatus of claim 19,

wherein one of when the signal from a substantially identical contacted point, at which said resistance element layer partially comes in contact with said conductive section, is detected two times sequentially and when the signal is detected continuously for more than a given time, a moving speed of one of a cursor and an icon along a direction corresponding to the contacted point is controlled such that the moving speed can change.

21. (Withdrawn) The electronic apparatus of claim 12,

wherein said multidirectional input device further comprises a switch at a center of said resistance element layer of the insulating substrate,

wherein the plane substrate is formed of the conductive metal substrate incorporating an output terminal, and the output terminal is routed to outside, and the plane substrate is fixed to the casing,

wherein a conductive resilient leg fixed to the casing comes resiliently in contact with a terminal of said resistance element layer,

wherein the insulating substrate has an aperture corresponding to a center of said resistance element layer,

wherein a switch corresponding to the aperture is disposed at a place on the plane substrate,

wherein said resistance element layer has not less than three electrodes,

wherein said operating section can tilt, slide and move downward, so that said resistance element layer partially comes in contact with the plane substrate by one of tilting said operating

section and sliding said operating section, and a voltage is applied alternately to input terminals of the casing corresponding to the resilient legs, the voltage is thus applied to said resistance element layer,

wherein an operating direction is detected by the signal, so that one of a cursor and an icon moves, then a predetermined item is selected using a switch signal from the switch obtained by pushing said operating section.

22. (Withdrawn)The electronic apparatus of claim 21,

wherein said multidirectional input device further comprises a switch at a center of said resistance element layer of the insulating substrate.

23. (New) A multidirectional input device comprising:

an insulating substrate;

a ring-shaped resistance element layer formed on said insulating substrate, said ring-shaped resistance element layer having more than two electrodes disposed thereon;

a plane substrate spaced from said resistance element layer by an insulating space;

a conductive section disposed on said plane substrate;

an operating section operable to bring said resistance element layer into partial contact with said conductive section; and

a controller,

wherein said resistance element layer is operable to receive a voltage,

wherein said operating section is further operable to press one of said insulating substrate and said plane substrate so that said resistance element layer comes into partial contact with said conductive section, and

wherein said controller is operable to detect a contacted position between said resistance element layer and said conductive section using a signal supplied from said conductive section.

24. (New) The multidirectional input device of claim 23,

wherein said insulating substrate comprises a flexible insulating substrate having an upper surface and a lower surface,

wherein said ring-shaped resistance element layer is formed on said lower surface of said flexible insulating substrate and has a plurality of electrodes at given positions,

wherein said conductive section comprises a first conductive layer and a second conductive layer insulated from each other,

wherein said operating section comprises a ring-shaped protruded section and a knob,

wherein said protruded section is spaced from said upper surface of said flexible insulating substrate by a distance,

wherein said knob is operable to tilt in an arbitrary direction with respect to a center of a lower surface of said operating section,

wherein said plurality of electrodes are operable to receive a voltage,

wherein when said knob tilts, said protruded section bends a part of said flexible insulating substrate so that said resistance element layer contacts one of said first conductive layer and said second conductive layer for conduction, and

wherein said controller is operable to determine a tilt direction of said knob based on output voltages supplied from leads of said first conductive layer and from leads of said second conductive layer.

25. (New) The multidirectional input device of claim 24,

wherein said ring-shaped resistance element layer has a uniform resistivity and a uniform ring-width,

wherein said plurality of electrodes are separated by an equiangular interval and are disposed at a distance from a center of said ring-shaped resistance element layer, and

wherein said first conductive layer and said second conductive layer are insulated from each other by insulating sections corresponding to said plurality of electrodes.

26. (New) The multidirectional input device of claim 23,

wherein the plane substrate is comprises a conductive metal substrate functioning as said conductive section, and

wherein said controller is operable to sequentially select two of said plurality of electrodes to

receive a voltage.

27. (New) An electronic apparatus comprising:

a top casing having a through-hole, said top casing being used as covering-material of said electronic apparatus;

a flexible insulating substrate;

a plane substrate;

a controller; and

a multidirectional input device having a ring-shaped resistance element layer formed on said flexible insulating substrate, a conductive section disposed on said plane substrate, which is spaced from said ring-shaped resistance element layer by an insulating space and an operating section operable to bring said resistance element layer into partial contact with said conductive section,

wherein said ring-shaped resistance element layer has more than two electrodes disposed thereon, and

wherein said controller is operable to detect a contacted position between said resistance element layer and said conductive section using a signal supplied from said conductive section.

28. (New) The electronic apparatus of claim 27,

wherein said insulating substrate comprises a flexible insulating substrate,

wherein said ring-shaped resistance element layer is formed on a lower surface of said flexible insulating substrate, and has a plurality of electrodes at given positions,

wherein said conductive section comprises a first conductive layer and a second conductive layer insulated from each other,

wherein said operating section comprises a ring-shaped protruded section and a knob,

wherein said protruded section is spaced from an upper surface of said flexible insulating substrate by a distance,

wherein said knob is operable to tilt in an arbitrary direction with respect to a center of a lower surface of said operating section,

wherein said plurality of electrodes are operable to receive a voltage, and

wherein when said knob tilts, said protruded section bends a part of said flexible insulating substrate, so that said resistance element layer contacts one of said first conductive layer and said second conductive layer for conduction.

29. (New) The electronic apparatus of claim 28,

wherein said plane substrate comprises a plane printed circuit substrate of said electronic apparatus, and

wherein an upper surface of said knob is exposed from the through-hole of said top casing.

30. (New) The electronic apparatus of claim 29, wherein said flexible insulating substrate comprises a flexible printed circuit substrate disposed above said plane printed circuit substrate.

31. (New) The electronic apparatus of claim 29, further comprising:

a resilient body placed between a lower surface of a section formed around the through-hole of said top casing and a flange operable to prevent said knob from separating from said electronic apparatus, said flange being formed of a circumference of said knob,

wherein the knob is operable to steadily hold at a position that is substantially normal to said plane substrate.

32. (New) The electronic apparatus of claim 27,

wherein said operating section is operable to tilt and slide, and

wherein said resistance element layer partially contacts with said conductive section by one of tilting said operating section and sliding said operating section, so that said controller detects an operating direction via a signal produced by the partial contact.